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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Turkey

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SUBJECT

The Adato Affair DECLA

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DIST. 25 October 1946

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SUPPLEMENT

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- 1. On 7 September Hüssyin Cahid Yalgin, owner-editor of Tanin, blasted forth in this editorial against the presence of Maitre Solomon Adato, lawyer and legal adviser of a number of embassies in Turkey, in the Grand National Assembly as Jewish Deputy for the Democratic Party. As a leading member of the People's Party, Yalgin has taken this opportunity to settle a personal grievance against Adato.
- 2. This grievance has lasted since the days when Talgin, then operating a customs clearinghouse of his own, demanded that a Soviet ship be seized and held until his claim for money due him by a Russian commercial firm was paid. Yalgin took his case before the Turkish Commercial Court and lost it to Adatc, who was legal advisor to the Russian firm. The case was taken to the Supreme Court of Appeal at Eskişehir, which upheld the defense of Adatc, with the result that the ship was released and Talgin was defeated.
- In Democratic circles it is stated that members of the People's Party are striving to obtain the cancellation of the election of Maitre Adato on the ground that he acts and has acted as legal adviser of the Russian Embassy. Yalsin stated that "the Turkish nation cannot tolerate that a person who is the man of confidence of a foreign state which has set its eyes on the Turkish Straits and has openly revealed its hostile intentions, should be carrying out a lofty and delicate task such as representing the nation in the Assembly." He further stated that Adato's refusal to resign (a move suggested by Yalsin in an earlier editorial) will cause the Jewish minority much affliction.
- Adato defended himself by saying that he had not been paid a monthly salary but for each separate service, that he had merely upheld international law when he had protested the seizure of the Russian ship, and that he has acted in the capacity of legal adviser for other consulates, as well as for other foreign commercial corporations and banking institutions. He admitted that he is the lawyer of the Soviet Bank and the Russian Export Corporation (Amtorg) in Istanbul. He concluded his defensive remarks by saying that the disciplinary council of the Turkish Bar Association had at the time of the trials exomerated him completely, and had upheld his argument that as a lawyer he could not discriminate in legel matters entrusted to him.

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